

### QF Pitch: Eye Drops to Treat Rare Eye Disease

SUBJ: Researchers produce the first-ever plasma eye drops in Qatar to treat baby with “one-in-a-million” condition

Hi X,

Researchers from Qatar Foundation’s Sidra Medicine have produced the country’s first plasma eye drops that treat a rare eye disease called plasminogen deficiency, which cause the patient’s eyes to fill with woody growths. The drops were used to treat a 10-month old girl who suffered from disease, which is estimated to impact [1.6 per one million people](https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/congenital-plasminogen-deficiency/).

[\[https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/congenital-plasminogen-deficiency/\]](https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/congenital-plasminogen-deficiency/).

The family of the Qatari child had been seeking treatment in the UK but was desperate to return home due to the rising number of Covid-19 cases. The family feared the only options would be to travel to the UK every three months or import the plasma eye drops, both presenting sustainable and economical challenges.

Researchers at Qatar Foundation’s Sidra Medicine met the challenge of creating the necessary eye drops by using existing fresh frozen plasma from screened donors that is typically used for infusion to produce the drops. By developing the drops locally, the hospital was able to alleviate the logistical stress of shipping the drops, which must be kept frozen while being transported, and ensure that there was a consistent and well-maintained supply. This personalized approach to treatment demonstrates Sidra Medicine’s efficiency and innovation surrounding precision medicine for pediatric patients in need.

If you are interested, I’d be happy to connect you with the doctors involved in this advancement from Qatar Foundation’s Sidra Medicine. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,  
X

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